

2027 – 2030 Paralympic Sports Half Dollar John Kennedy Obverse Design Descriptions

The United States Mint first issued the current half dollar obverse design in 1964, a year after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. The obverse shows an image of Kennedy based on a portrait prepared for his presidential medal, while the Presidential Seal appears on the reverse.

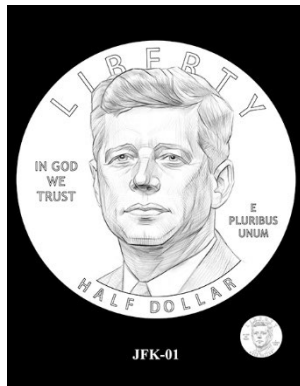
The first half dollar, minted in silver in 1794, features the personification of Liberty on the obverse and an eagle on the reverse. Throughout its history, until 1947, the half dollar featured variations of Liberty, including the “Walking Liberty” half dollar designed by Adolph A. Weinman. In 1948, an image of Benjamin Franklin replaced Liberty on the obverse, while the reverse featured the Liberty Bell.

The *Circulating Collectible Coin Redesign Act* (Act) (Public Law 116–330) directs the Secretary of the Treasury to redesign and issue half dollar coins each year from 2027 to 2030. The reverses of each half dollar must be “emblematic of one Paralympic sport.”

The Act requires, “the obverse of the half dollars shall maintain a likeness of John Kennedy, and be designed in a manner so as to distinguish it from the obverse design used on the current half dollar.” The Kennedy half dollar is the current U.S. 50-cent coin.

Half dollar obverse inscriptions must include: “LIBERTY,” “E PLURIBUS UNUM,” “IN GOD WE TRUST,” and “HALF DOLLAR,” “50 CENTS,” or “50¢.”

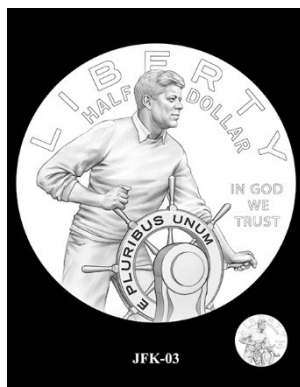
Half dollar reverse designs are in development and will be presented at a later meeting.



JFK-01 depicts Kennedy looking confidently towards the horizon.



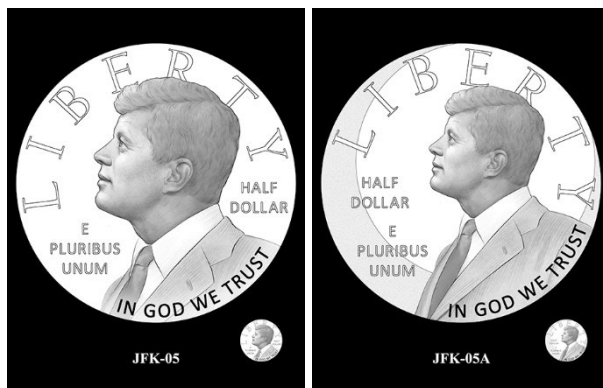
JFK-02 presents a portrait of Kennedy with an expression of determination.



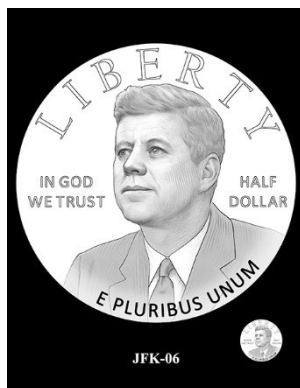
JFK-03 features Kennedy, who had a lifelong passion for sailing, at the helm. The inscription “E PLURIBUS UNUM” is engraved into the ship’s wheel.



JFK-04 shows Kennedy gazing skyward with a warm and hopeful expression.



JFK-05 and **JFK-05A** present Kennedy looking upward, reflecting the boldness and optimism of his presidency. Inspired by one of Kennedy's well-known quotes, "I believe this nation ought to commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to Earth," **JFK-05A** features a crescent moon-like element wrapped inside the border.



JFK-06 shows a three-quarter portrait of Kennedy with an expression that emphasizes his warmth, charisma, and approachability.



JFK-07 features a charismatic portrait of Kennedy as though engaged in conversation.



JFK-08 and **JFK-08A** portray a three-quarters profile of Kennedy. Design **JFK-08** presents the inscription “LIBERTY” as a framing device—similar to the current half dollar obverse.



JFK-09 features a pensive Kennedy, deep in thought. Despite the many challenges he faced during his administration, his expression remains warm and optimistic.



JFK-10 presents Kennedy with arms folded, echoing his official presidential portrait by Aaron Shikler.